

Vigo Co. Task Force on Alcohol & Drug Abuse

Association

# Chalos chair for task force

FEB 2 1986

Mayor P. Pete Chalos has been selected as 1986 honorary chairman for the Vigo County Task Force on Alcohol and Drug Abuse/Families in Action.

Carolyn Kelly, incoming president of the group's board of directors, and Ed Sharton, outgoing board president, gave Chalos a plaque Friday designating him as honorary chairman.

Sharton said Chalos was picked because he is "a sober public official and a tremendous role model as a family man."

"The community working together," Chalos said, "can give a thrust to the efforts of families in this town that are in need of education and assistance" to help fight problems of alcohol and drug abuse.

Problems exist in Terre Haute just as they do in every other community, Kelly said. Sharton said problems would continue until the "easy, OK attitude" toward alcohol and drug abuse changes through community efforts.

Community Affairs File

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Vigo County Public Library

*Assoc - (Vigo Co) - Community Improvement Program*

# Weatherization program staffers selected

S SEP 18 1982

By SUE LOUGHLIN  
Staff Writer

Vigo County's weatherization program moved one step closer to implementation this week with selection of four staff members for the program.

Board members of the Vigo County Economic Opportunity Act Committee (EOAC) approved hiring of three estimator-inspectors and one outreach worker.

During the selection process, EOAC staff members and the press were asked to temporarily leave the meeting. Members of the personnel committee include Mike Barnes, Bertha Fischer, Hadassiah Brown and Sandra Kyle.

The Rev. M. Duane Sinn, EOAC executive director, said staff training for weatherization will begin immediately. Once persons assume their duties, EOAC will begin accepting applications from low-income persons who need funds from the U.S. Department of Energy to help winterize their homes.

EOAC received a \$50,000 advance in late August to begin the program. It will receive a total of \$285,866, which must be used by Dec. 31.

The agency must still purchase a truck and let bids for contracts.

EOAC is at 121 S. Third St.

In other matters, the board approved a work

proposal for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1. The plan will be submitted to the state department on aging and community services as a pre-requisite in obtaining funds from the Community Service Block Grant.

Sinn said the plan is similar to last year's, but the agency will cut out its summer youth program, as well as outreach programs in targeted areas.

EOAC was recently informed that it will be the CAP agency for Clay, Putnam and Vigo counties, and will receive an additional \$70,000 for the 1983 CSBG period. Its total allocation amounts to \$151,000.

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Monday

# Energy aid applications available

S OCT 19 1982

Assoc (Vigo Co) - Community Improvement Program

By KATHY GURCHIEK  
Staff Writer

Applications for Project SAFE (State Assistance For Energy) will be made available in all counties beginning next Monday, members of the Vigo County Council on Aging have learned.

Carol Sollars, transportation coordinator for the Area 7 Senior Services, said 80 homes have been weatherized through the Area 7 Weatherization program. Seventy of those homes were owner-occupied, and the rest were rentals.

Since February, about \$160,000 has been spent to weatherize about 1,100 homes. She said of the 174 persons who have participated

in the weatherization project, 68 were elderly and 40 were handicapped.

The bids for the 1982 audit and the 1981-82 fiscal year Weatherization program were awarded to Dix & Co., Ms. Sollars said.

Bids will be reviewed for leasing of vehicles for the Senior Citizens Areawide Transportation System (SCATS) and the subcontract for the Senior Handicapped Transportation Program. Those bids will be reviewed 2 p.m. Nov. 9 at the West Central office, 121 S. Third St.

In other business, council members were informed of the emergency meal boxes to be assembled beginning 8:30 a.m. Nov. 18 and Nov. 19. Assembly of the boxes will be at the National Guard Armory, 3614 Maple Ave.

Directors of the 32 nutrition sites will later distribute the boxes to homebound seniors and congregate dining sites. Each box contains enough canned food stuff for five noon meals.

The emergency boxes are given to persons 60 years and older in the nutrition program. The boxes are to be used when inclement weather prevents the normal delivery of hot meals.

Cost of assembly is estimated at \$6 to \$6.50 per box, with 2,000 boxes to be assembled. The federally funded program is administered through the West Central Indiana Nutrition Program. There is no charge for the meals, but donations are accepted.

It "looks like this is the last year for putting

together emergency meal boxes" unless sufficient funding is provided next year, Luann Radecki Willette said in her report.

Stephen Wallis reminded council members of the 1983 budget allocations. The budget totals \$384,380 for the six-county area, with \$330,000 in federal funds and \$54,000 in state funds.

"Nutrition is going to be a problem with home-delivered meals," said Wallis, assistant director for programs on aging. The report made by nutrition director Donna Busch last month said some cutting would be done in the nutrition program.

Those cuts would include 50 less meals served at congregate dining sites and 100 less

homebound meals served. Ms. Busch predicted possible elimination of one dining site and cutback of employee hours.

The Department on Aging and Community Services will conduct a public hearing 2 p.m. Nov. 3 at the Vigo County Public Library.

The Title III work program, Area 7 budget and the proposed goals and objectives for Area 7 in 1983 will be heard. Public comments are invited.

The first dinner honoring volunteers is planned for noon Nov. 12 at the Holiday Inn. Justin Clements, assistant to the director at Gibault School for Boys, will be guest speaker. Recognized at the free dinner will be volunteers who have served in programs for the elderly.

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# weatherization grant

Community Affairs File

Community Improvement Program Assoc. Vigo

## Time running out for use of local

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T - OCT 30 1982

By SUE LOUGHLIN  
Staff Writer

Time is ticking away for local officials, who have only two months to use a \$285,866 weatherization grant.

The Vigo County Economic Opportunity Act Committee Inc. received grant approval and a \$50,000 advance in August. This weekend, the office plans to advertise for contractual bids to complete the weatherization, which is intended to improve energy efficiency of low-income housing units.

The office has received about 120 applications, according to Duane Sinn, EOAC executive director.

Sinn said that at least 257 homes must be weatherized, based on a maximum figure of \$1,000 per home.

Weatherization grants are administered by the Indiana Department on Aging and Community Services. The actual funding source is the federal Department of Energy.

Sinn said the program is progressing, and noted that program personnel have spent the last two weeks in training sessions. Acting as director for weatherization,

Sinn receives a portion of his salary from the grant.

There has been some disagreement between state and local agencies on whether or not the local program should have hired a separate director.

According to Al Gage, IDACS deputy director for community services, the state had been under the impression that EOAC would hire a director to run the program.

But the decision is up to the local agency. "We try not to tell local agencies how to run the program," Gage said. "But to me, because the program is so intricate, it needs someone who can give it full time."

Sinn maintains there is insufficient money in the budget to hire a separate director.

Aside from administration and insurance costs, 55 percent of the grant is to go for labor and program support, while 45 percent is allocated for materials.

Sinn said he expects to hire several contractors, who will supply their own materials.

Actual weatherization should begin sometime in November.

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The program has four staff members: three estimator-inspectors and one intake-outreach person.

EOAC also will purchase a truck from Doan and Decker Ford for \$7,450, which will come from a separate state funding source. EOAC also received bids from Swingley Chevrolet.

State officials say the local office has been slow in instituting its weatherization program.

"Every other program is off the ground except theirs," Jean Merritt, executive director of IDACS, said Monday.

IDACS staff will be in Terre Haute as soon as possible to provide assistance, according to Beverly Ferguson, who is in charge of field services.

"We are committed to the citizens of Vigo County," Gage has said. "If we can't (administer the program) through the normal course, we'll look for another agency."

The county weatherization program has had problems since EOAC first submitted a grant application in February.

Various grant proposals were returned because "they didn't submit enough documentation to allow us to approve their grant," Richard Irwin, IDACS grant coordinator, said.

The grant was approved in August and EOAC received a \$50,000 advance Aug. 17, Irwin said.

Staff members were hired Sept. 20, although one resigned Oct. 6 and has since been replaced.

"That (two months) is not a lot of time," Irwin said, particularly since the program just now is getting started. But he added that some agencies have completed as many as 300 homes in one month.

The state weatherization program has been in effect since January.

Applications for weatherization have been accepted locally for several weeks, but estimator-inspectors have been interrupted by training sessions in Franklin. Sinn said crews are out every day now, and expect to complete the necessary quota by the end of November.

## FACT SHEET FOR VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION

HISTORY-In 1915 at a meeting of the Terre Haute Council of Women's Clubs, Miss Lillian Rose, President of the Vigo County Graduate Nurses Association and the nurse for Metropolitan Life Insurance Policy holders, presented a resolution setting forth the need for a public health nursing organization in Terre Haute. The matter was studied by the Council and subsequently a mass meeting was held at the Chamber of Commerce. This meeting led to the organization in April 1916 of the Public Health Nursing Association. Miss Lillian Rose was employed as the first Public Health Nurse and began her duties on October 1, 1916. The Association was first located in the 100 block on North 7th Street. From there it moved to the Hemmingway Home, Friendly Inn, Tribune Building, and in 1928, property was purchased at 418 N. 9th Street. Recognizing the expanding needs of the Public Health Nursing Association in 1939, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Blumberg presented the Association with the property at 328 South 5th Street in honor of Mr. Blumberg's mother, Theresa Ravitch Blumberg. It was designated that it be used as a health center. In 1957, the official name of the organization was legally changed to Visiting Nurse Association.

## STAFF

Mrs. Joanna Smoot, R.N.	Director
Mrs. Mary Jane Compton, R.N.	Supervisor
Mrs. Wanda Couchman, R.N.	Staff Nurse
Mrs. Patricia Gwinner, R.N.	Staff Nurse
Mrs. Janice Morgan, R.N.	Staff Nurse
Mrs. Mary Johnson, L.P.N.	Staff Nurse
Mrs. Carol Williams	Staff Nurse
Mrs. Frances Miller	Nurse Aide
Mrs. Nan Dolken	Nutritionist

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Vigo County Public Library

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Mrs. Angela Bedwell LPN



SERVICES\* The VNA's object is to offer a defined health service to the City of Terre Haute and District by providing a professional staff of nurses who will render home care to the sick and clinical service under the direction of the physician in charge of the patient. Incorporated in this service shall be the teaching of: hygiene, principles and demonstration of the care of the sick and the prevention of disease. The services offered by the VNA are Home Services, Clinic Services, and Loan Closet. Home services include nutritional counseling, bedside nursing, physical therapy and rehabilitation, maternal and new born care, care of the crippled child, adult health supervision, child health supervision, and home health aide care. The clinical services offered at the VNA building are Well Child Health Clinics, Maternal Health Clinics, and the administration of an infant feeding program for the City of Terre Haute (check on this before using). Helping to staff the Well Child Clinics at the VNA building are volunteers from the Federation of Jewish Women, Newcomers Club, Tri Kappa Sorority, Women's Auxiliary to the Vigo County Medical Society, and members of the Visiting Nurse Association Board. In addition, once a month our Maternal Health Clinic is held at HYTE Center. The VNA nurses are responsible for care of persons living within the official city limits and limited cases within the county boundaries. The VNA provides clinical experience for the ISU nursing students.

PAYMENT OF SERVICES-may be full, part, or free, depending on the family's ability to pay. The allotment from the United Way makes most of the free visits possible. Other payments are made by third party payees; for example, Department of Public Welfare, Miners Welfare, Medicare and Medicaid, Veterans Administration and private insurance.

METHOD OF REFERRAL-Patients are referred by the physician, patient, family, friends, social agency, hospital or other health agencies. After

the initial referral, the nurse is sent to make a home visit on all calls. A doctor's order is required for further service.

The Visiting Nurse Association is a member of the National League for Nursing and the Indiana Home Health Agency Association and is a certified agency to provide services for the Medicare and Medicaid programs.



# VOLUNTEERS AID WORK OF VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION

Community Affairs File

Photos by Martin.

TS APR 21 1974



L. P. N. MARY JOHNSON leaves the VNA headquarters at 328 S. 5th St. to make some house calls.



WELL CHILD CLINIC VOLUNTEERS include Mrs. Phil Stein and Mrs. Gershon Loeser, both from the Federation of Jewish Women, and Mrs. Robert Meissel, Vigo County Medical Auxiliary.



H. M. S. BRISTOL, M.D., examines little Teresa Lynn Miller as her mother, Mrs. Linda Miller, watches. Mary Jane Jones, R.N., assists Dr. Bristol while VNA volunteer Mrs. Sa'd El-Issa, Medical Auxiliary, takes notes for the clinic records.

The Visiting Nurse Association, a United Way Agency, is observing April as "VNA" month.

The staff and volunteers participate in a variety of programs that serve residents of Terre Haute.

Included are home services (bedside nursing, maternal and newborn care); care to crippled children, adult and child health supervision and service to tuberculosis patients.

VNA conducts five well child clinics monthly, as well as regular maternal health and pre-natal clinics. In addition, it maintains a Loan Closet, through which wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and other equipment are available at no charge. In the past year VNA has administered the infant feeding program, for which the City of Terre Haute provided some of its federal revenue sharing funds.

THE  
TERRE HAUTE  
TRIBUNE-STAR

April 21, 1974.

TERRE HAUTE,  
INDIANA

TS APR 21 1974



AT THE FRONT DESK—Emmet Lewis and her baby, Rachael, are welcomed by VNA volunteer from Newcomers Club Mrs. Leonard Peek, seated, and VNA board member Mrs. Tom Merrill as they come to a well-child clinic.

TS APR 21 1974



GETTING HIS HEIGHT AND WEIGHT CHECKED by volunteers from Tri Kappa is Robert Williams. Mrs. John Knight handles the records keeping while Mrs. B. Guille Cox Jr. does the measuring.



COMMUNITY AFFAIRS File  
**VNA Names  
Four Members  
To Board** *Assoc (T.H.)*

The Visiting Nurse Association of Terre Haute named four new members to the Board of Directors.

**MAY 14 1976**

New members are Mrs. Henry W. Bopp, Mrs. David A. Dunbar, Mrs. Richard Landini and Mrs. Marvin Henry.

Mrs. Bopp, 335 Bluebird Drive, is the wife of the late Dr. Henry W. Bopp and is the mother of three daughters and three step-sons. She was graduated from Indiana State University and the Union Hospital School of Nursing and is a member of the Union Hospital Women's Service League and Centenary United Methodist Church.

A graduate of the School of Dental Hygiene at the Indiana University Medical Center, Mrs. Dunbar resides at 720 Collett Ave., with her husband, one daughter and two sons. She is a member of Tri Kappa Sorority and of Sacred Heart Church.

From Missoula, Mont., Mrs. Landini moved with her husband, one daughter and four sons to Terre Haute a year ago and resides at Condit House on the campus of Indiana State University. She earned a degree in nursing at Burlington, Vt., and is a member of the Terre Haute Symphony board and of Indiana State University Wives Club.

Mrs. Henry has lived in Terre Haute for 14 years, and resides at 21 Crescent Drive with her husband, one daughter and one son, both students at ISU. She moved to Terre Haute from Martinsville, Ind., is a member of ISU Wives Club and First Baptist Church, and served on the Turner Girls Club board for six years.

During 1975, the Visiting Nurse Association made 7,416 home care nursing visits in 1,093 homes, visited 5,408 acute and chronically ill residents, gave 1,226 hours of trained health aid to 56 families, conducted five regularly scheduled Well Child clinics each month and performed numerous miscellaneous services.

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Viigo County Public Library



S JUN 9 1978

Assoc (TH)



**VISITING NURSES BOARD**—Three new board members of the Visiting Nurses Association were named recently at the annual meeting. Shown here (left to right) are Mrs. Shelton Hannig, Mrs. William Elrod and Juanita Kriebel. The Association is a United Way agency. (Star Photo: Kadel)

Yigo County Public Library

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Community Affairs File



# No place like home when your are sick

SEP 23 1984

"When you're sick there's no place like home."

These words are printed on a brochure published by the Visiting Nurse Association of Terre Haute Inc. They herald the services and purpose of the "not for profit home care agency."

The main office, located in a stately old home at 328 S. Fifth St., serves residents of Vigo and Clay counties. Branch offices are located at 825 S. Main, Clinton, serving Vermillion and Parke counties, and 200 N. Court, Sullivan.

Colleen Pyle is administrator. Norma Schultz is director of health services.

Schultz said visiting nurses at one time functioned like a public health service. But in 1960 the association was licensed for Medicare and Medicaid. Today most patients are eligible for either Medicaid or Medicare or are cared for through the United Way of the Wabash Valley.

Referrals for care by visiting nurses are usually made by hospitals or physicians, although family members or friends can also make referrals. Patients are screened. The need for the services must be approved by the patient's attending physician.

Because of the services offered through the Visiting Nurse Association, many men and women in the area are able to retain a degree of independence and remain in their own homes for longer periods of time.

Visiting nurses make the transition from hospitalization to home easier for the patient and the physician, according to Rosanne Davis, a nurse with the association.

In addition to monitoring the patient's progress, the visiting nurse also lends emotional support and provides encouragement. Davis explained, "Often patients don't

understand what to do. They don't know how to care for themselves when they get home. Visiting nurses evaluate the needs and seek needed resources."

She noted that a staff social worker is a "great help."

Home health care aides are also dispatched by the Visiting Nurse Association. Their duties include such things as baths, simple exercises and light housekeeping chores for patients who cannot take care of personal needs.

Physical therapists are available.

The frequency of visits and number of visits made by nurses are determined according to individual needs.

Davis said, "We stop seeing patients when they can function independent of us."

Discharge is made with approval of physicians. After discharge, Davis noted, patients are placed on "inactive status" for 30 days. During that time if the patient, family members or physician phones for assistance, the patient can be scheduled for visits again without a lot of paperwork. The "inactive status" is reassuring to all concerned, Davis said. It is especially comforting for the patient, who knows help is readily available if needed.

The association has divided the county into six districts. Nurses are assigned to be primary nurse in each district. Thus, they have a chance to build relationships with their

patients. Davis explained, "The patients enjoy having the same nurse. It seems to provide a sense of security and trust. It gives us a chance to build relationships. It gives the patients time to learn to trust the nurses' ability as a professional."

According to the annual report issued by the Visiting Nurse Association, a total of 10,787 visits were made in 1983 in Vigo, Parke, Vermillion and Sullivan counties. Of the visits, 7,748 were for skilled nursing care; 652, were for physical therapy; and 2,387 were by home health aides.

There were 561 patients listed. Ages included: 25, 0-19; 14, 20 to 44; 50, 45 to 59; 173, 60 to 74; 184, 75 to 84; and 115, 85 or older.

Forty-one percent of referrals were made by hospitals; 36 percent by physicians; 19 percent by patients or family members; and 4 percent by other sources.

Medicare provided a hefty 67 percent of payments. Other payment sources were Medicaid, 8 percent; United Way, 15 percent; grant money, 7 percent; insurance, 1 percent; and patients, 2 percent.

Schultz said the staff includes 15 nurses. In addition, 20 students from the Indiana State University School of Nursing are now training at the Visiting Nurse Association.

Schultz said the offices are expanding. The sunporch was recently renovated. The basement and attic will be converted into work space in the future.





Ribbon Cutting Ceremony — from left, (front row) Terre Haute City Councilwoman Rosie O'Neal; Executive Director Joann Brown; Mayor Pete Chaloes. (back row) VOA Board Members George Johnson, Dorothy Gaede and Virginia Juergens.

## Terre Haute's Brandon House Expands

When something works, you usually try to do more of it. Such is the case at VOA's Brandon House in Terre Haute, Indiana, where increased community demand prompted the house to look for an additional location.

Brandon House, designed to accommodate handicapped and elderly adults, serves approximately 35 people each year. The number is limited because the house cannot house over 25 people at one time. And, because the waiting list continued to grow, according to Executive Director Joann Brown, there was only one thing to do—expand.

VOA secured new property to build an annex to house an additional 12 handicapped and elderly individuals. Prior to the opening in June, the new annex had already received placement requests from several referral sources including the local Terre Haute Mental Health Association, the State Mental Hospital, and the Department of Regional Hospitals.

Brandon House opened in 1972 to provide a home for mentally disabled and elderly community residents. Clients receive emotional and physical support from the staff and area physicians, while living in a semi-independent group atmosphere. Some people make the house their permanent home, while others are eventually able to leave and live on their own. However, clients of the new facility will receive less supervision and thus have greater independence.

"The need is so great in this part of the country for living environments like ours," says Ms. Brown, "that we are being urged

to consider opening a third home."

Kathy Zimmer, executive director of the Mental Health Association in Vigo County, confirmed the need for expansion of the Brandon's services. "Just off the top of my head, I can think of 20 people who would do well and need such a living arrangement. I know there are many more."

Zimmer adds that the program's ideals are not the only positive element. "I feel that these homes are more cost-effective and practical in the overall view," she said.

Dr. Sisir K. Dhar, a local physician who treats some of the Brandon's residents, shares Zimmer's opinion. According to Dhar, "These services are considerably cheaper than institutionalized services like nursing homes or hospitalization."

Brandon House is funded through resident service fees which are based on the resident's ability to pay. Personal contributions and trust fund donations also supply funding.

"These funding sources cannot support an additional house," says Brown, "so we have turned to charitable foundations for support. It is very difficult to compete with so many other deserving charitable organizations for money. However, community oriented care for mentally disabled and elderly individuals is widely recognized as the path to be taken more often in the future. Brandon House will continue to seek funding for expansion from foundations and the public to help widen this path in the Terre Haute area."

## Cooper Receives Maud Booth Award



Mark Cooper

Mark F. Cooper, vice president of public relations for SAFECO Insurance Company, was named the 1985 recipient of Volunteer's of America's Maud Booth Correctional Services Award.

Cooper was presented the award on August 12 during VOA's Annual American Correctional Association Congress Breakfast. Kevin P. Reilly, VOA chairman of the board, presented the award following remarks by Helen G. Corrothers, last year's recipient.

The Maud Booth Correctional Services Award is given each year to an individual who is representative of Volunteers of America's philosophy of faith in the human

potential of offenders and ex-offenders. Although Cooper is professionally involved with working for human related causes, the award recognizes his voluntary efforts in the field.

Cooper has spent much time serving on voluntary boards, councils and advisory groups including the Urban League, the Washington State Council on Crime and Delinquency, the Seattle Zoological Society, the Washington State Refugee Advisory Council, Business Volunteers for the Arts, and the University of Washington.

According to Norman F. Chamberlain, former executive director of Pioneer Human Services, Cooper is acknowledged as the "conscience" of the corporate community, and "has gone far beyond the expected and required."

"Today our nation and the world needs mentors who are persons of principles and conviction; leaders who are tireless, courageous, and effective in their efforts to help and heal, and heroes who can symbolize the highest aspirations of the human heart and the ultimate strengths of the human spirit. In my mind, Mark F. Cooper exemplifies all of these," said Chamberlain.

## Conversion Planned To Expand Men's Shelter

The proposed conversion of a vacant first floor is the first step in a plan to expand the services of the Volunteers of America's Men's shelter in Rochester, New York. Scheduled to begin construction in 1986, the plans call for the conversion of the first floor of the present shelter site to 24 independent living units.

The units will be used to house homeless people who need a transitional step in moving from controlled dormitory style arrangements to independent apartment settings.

The new design is a unique mix of both settings, having smaller more private bedrooms than a dormitory, but having shared clustered kitchens and bathrooms.

In order to meet the needs of varying clientele, the facility is also designed so that the clusters may be subdivided for families, as well as accommodate any other changes that may be necessary.

The facility will provide both short and long term living arrangements, with no restriction on length of stay. The flexibility is intended to encourage stability and help residents gain independence.

"We're looking for a construction start date of early 1986, if we are approved for HHAP funding from New York State. If not, we're going to move our date and continue to work on funding," said Loretta Darling, executive director.

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Volunteers of America



# Happy birthday, VOA 89th year

## Big bash scheduled for Friday to celebrate

1 s MAR 4 1985

By Carol Swearingen  
Assistant Living Editor

Clients, staff and friends at the Volunteers of America, Brandon House, will be taking part in a national celebration Friday of Volunteers of America's 89th birthday.

A special cake similar to those being baked for VOA celebrations around the country will be shared as clients, supporters, board members and staff of VOA join together to mark the event.

This week has been officially declared Volunteers of America Week by Mayor P. Pete Chalos, commemorating the week of

Volunteers of America's founding on March 8, 1896.

"There is an expressed need in our community for residential care and our home for the mentally handicapped and elderly to keep people off the streets, out of nursing homes and mental institutions," Joann Brown, executive director of Brandon House, said. "Without Brandon House, many of our people would be forced into intolerable living conditions and circumstances."

In Terre Haute, Volunteers of America has a group home that serves approximately 40 adults a year.

"We have been encouraged by referral sources to expand our services," Brown

added. "We have a capacity for 25 people and we are making plans to open another house to accommodate 12 more disabled persons."

She emphasized Brandon House is not just for Vigo County men and women. "We have clients from throughout the Wabash Valley — Indiana and Illinois."

The executive director pointed out Brandon House receives no state or federal assistance or funds. "We depend entirely on private donations. Residents with inadequate income pay based on their income."

Referrals are received from the state hospitals for mental health, local health care facilities, churches, families and individuals.

The staff responsible for the care of the residents in Brandon House includes the director and house supervisor-cooks.

"We have excellent cooks that rotate on a 24-hour basis — I don't know what I would do without them," Brown said. "They really care about our clients."

Brown said the residents may help in the kitchen and with other household chores if they wish to do so. "We want them to feel that this is their home, and to get involved."

She noted outside activities for several of the clients include the Sheltered Workshop and participation in group therapy at Hamilton Center. "Two of the men work at Goodwill Industries ... and some belong to the YMCA."

"Along with our residents, staff and friends, we have invited past executive directors to the birthday party on Friday," she said. Former executive directors include: Margaret Cates, who served from 1940-77; Elma White, 1978-80; and Charles R. Doll, 1980-83. Brown, program director in 1980, was appointed to her present position in July, 1983.

According to Brandon House records, the VOA organization has been in Terre Haute since 1899. A resident for elderly and transit men opened for service at 220 N. Fourth St. in 1956. In 1974 the residence was sold and the current home at 1140 S. Sixth St. was purchased. Remodeling took place in 1977 and again in 1981.

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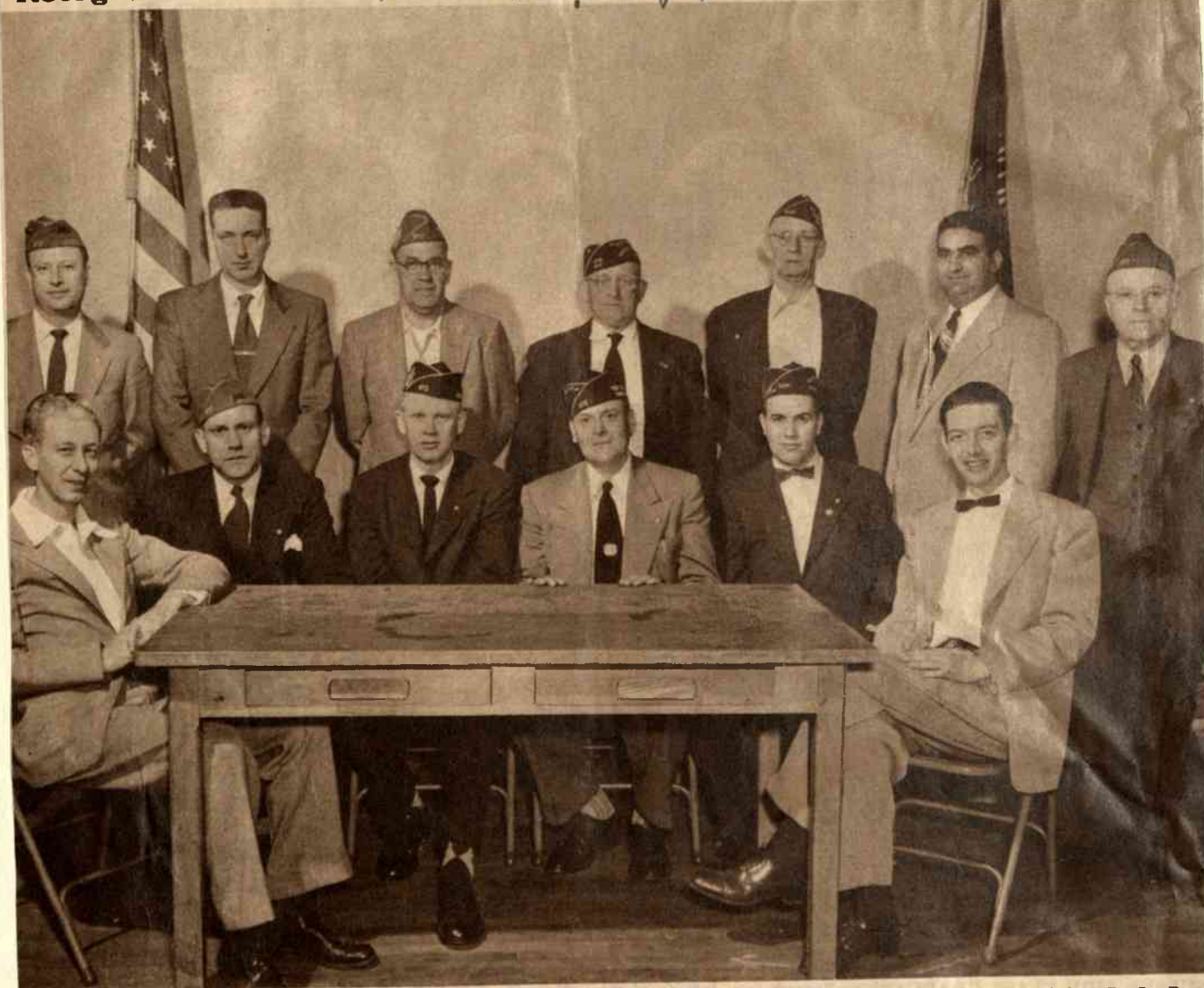
Rotogravure Section. *Tribe Star, May 9, 1954*

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OFFICERS OF THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS who were recently installed. Front row, from left: D. L. Beaman, chaplain; Carrol Price, senior vice commander; Ray McManus, commander; Frank Cardinal, past commander; Paul Blitz, chief of staff of department of Indiana, and Gerald Beaman, junior vice commander. Back row, from left: Mel Jernigan, quartermaster; James Marshall, Neville Wilson, George Albright, Stanley Cooper, Eli Malooley, trustee, and Harry G. Cushman, judge advocate.

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA



# VFW Post 972 To Mark 50th Anniversary

Lawton-Byrum Post No. 972, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its founding and chartering on the evening of Friday, Oct. 20, with a dinner for all members, their wives and guests.

The post charter was issued on the second day of September when the Post became an actual fact. Original or charter members of whom only one now lives and the charter is quoted:

"The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

By the authority of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States: Be it known that Comrades Frank A. Tabor, S. A. Ryrum, Albert Burns, A. J. Rawlinson, Otto W. Burge, W. R. Simmons, Oliver Koll, E. C. Remington, Samuel N. Sellers, A. D. Rowland, Casey Ott, George Tonks, Joe D. Howell, A. L. McBride, J. J. Comford, H. E. Knotts, Oscar D. Rowe, E. C. Stogsdill, G. E. Chapman, Enoch E. Fuller, William B. Corey, Merno Van Borsum, John D. Weir, George C. Bremser, Adin W. Lee, Paul A. Benning and Jerome Shandy, having served honorably in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps of the United States of

America are hereby authorized to organize and are constituted a Post in the City of Terre Haute, in the State of Indiana to be known as Lawton-Byrum Post No. 972, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

In witness whereof we have hereto set our hands and the official seal of this associa-

tion this 2nd Day of September, 1922.

Robert G. Woodside  
Commander-in-Chief  
Ruel W. Elton  
Adjutant-General."

The name of the post was derived from General Henry W. Lawton and Alvin F. Byrum who have served their country and flag as may be found in

their history, so says the by laws of Post No. 972, VFW.

General Lawton was a veteran of the Civil War, Spanish American War, Philippine Campaigns and many Indian uprisings.

He was a sergeant in the 9th Indiana Infantry from April 18 until July 29, 1861, and was promoted to the rank of first lieu-

tenant of the 30th Infantry, having come up through the ranks. He was promoted to captain May 17, 1862, lieutenant colonel Nov. 15, 1864, and brevetted colonel of volunteers March 13, 1865.

While serving as captain of "A" Company, 30th Infantry (Indiana) and brigade office, Lawton was awarded a "Medal

of Honor" for distinguished gallantry in leading a charge of skirmishers against enemy rifle pits taking the pits with occupants and resisting two determined attacks of the enemy to retake the positions in front of Atlanta, Ga., on Aug. 5, 1864. He was mustered out of service on Nov. 25, 1865.

Later, Lawton reinlisted and



OFFICERS OF LAWTON-BYRUM POST No. 972, VFW, which will celebrate the post's 50th anniversary with special events on Friday, Oct. 30. Seated left to right: Wilbur Brock Jr., Vice Commander; Thomas Shaw, Trustee; Clyde "Brick" Miller, Installing Officer; Winifred Todd, Commander; Carl D. Ellinger, Sr. Vice Commander. Standing left to right: John Miller, Judge

Advocate; David Sloan, Employment Officer; Tom Ingle, Officer-of-the-Day; Paul Ingle, House Committee; Ralph H. Garrett, Adjutant; Albert Hastings, Trustee; Marshall Bedford, Chaplain; Eli Malooley, Trustee; Ivan Dwyer, Quartermaster; Donald Bowman, Member.

Photo by Martin.

Vigo County Public Library  
Community Affairs File

REFERENCE  
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*continued on back*

Assoc. (~~Wabash~~  
Vigo Co.)



was promoted to brigadier general on May 4, 1898, serving principally in the far west where he earned many honors and citations during the Indian uprisings in the Arizona Territory, and was appointed Inspector General of the Army on Sept. 17, 1888.

General Lawton was killed in action against insurgents at the Water Works at San Mateo, Philippine Islands, on Dec. 19, 1899.

Alvin F. Byrum was born in Marengo, Ind., Jan. 2, 1895. He was educated in the schools of Marengo and Terre Haute.

After his enlistment and training, Comrade Byrum sailed with the 90th (Lone Star Division) Division, "K" Company. He was killed in action during an attack against the enemy near Bantheville, a village about thirty-five miles northwest of Verdun, France, on Oct. 24, 1918, and is interred upon a hill at Bantheville after a soldier's military funeral with full military honors.

His captain wrote as follows:

"I have known Comrade Byrum from the time he joined the company. He was a good soldier and never shirked his duty. At the battle of St. Mihiel and in the Argonne Forest he was courageous under shell fire and was respected by all who knew him."

Some of the invited honored guests to the dinner anniversary observance are Raymond Witecki, Department of Indiana Commander, VFW; Ralph Pigman Sr., vice commander, Department of Indiana VFW; Mayor William F. Brighton, Chief of Police James Swift, who is also a member of Post No. 972; Chief of Fire Department LeRoy Shipley and

others.

The committee appointed by Commander Winfred Todd for the arrangements of and for the 50th Anniversary Dinner, Oct. 20, in addition to the women in the Womens' Auxiliary, under the guidance of Mildred Daugherty, president of the Auxiliary, are: Arrangements, Paul Ingle and Albert Hastings; decorations, Ivan Dwyer and Wilbur Brock; souvenirs, William Boswell; publicity, Alexander Heller.

Clarence Campbell, a 50-year member of the VFW, who has been a member of Post No. 972 for 47 years, will make the historical comment at the dinner and observance.



VFW

# Lawton-Byrum VFW Post Marks 50th Year

Community Affairs File

In a dinner meeting marked by the receipt of a national Veterans of Foreign Wars Golden Anniversary Award, the local Lawton-Byrum Post Friday night marked its 50th birthday anniversary.

The award was presented to Post Commander Winfred Todd by John S. Etsinger, past Department of Indiana Commander and now National Voice of Democracy Junior Vice Commander, at the dinner at the post home on South Thirteenth street. The award marked the founding 50 years ago of Post 972, the actual date having been Sept. 22, 1922.

+ + +

Etsinger, as speaker of the evening, remarked that the hundredth anniversary will see participation by veterans of the Korean and Vietnam conflicts but probably by no World War II veterans.

He paid tribute to the older

veterans, particularly those of World War I, for having founded the post and having maintained and strengthened it during difficult years.

During the times of hardship "They had something better than money—they had comradeship," he declared.

+ + +

As to current problems, he praised the veterans as having maintained the national independence, and rejected any ideas of begging for peace from an enemy or of blanket amnesty for those who have fled the country when it was their time to answer the call to the armed forces.

The story of Lawton Byrum was told by Clarence E. Campbell, oldest in length of membership in the local post.

He paid tribute to the only surviving charter member, Paul A. Benning, who also was third commander of the post, and now is confined to a hospital by illness.

Campbell recalled the post had its first home in Memorial Hall; then at 13th St. and Wash Ave.; then at 13th and Voorhees streets; next at 1501 Elm St., and then moved to the present home in the 1940s.

+ + +

Todd presented Campbell with a 50-year pin in the organization.

Life membership pins were presented to Danny Hatcher and to Ralph Garrett.

A large plaque listing all the commanders of the last 50 years was presented to the post by Immediate Past Commander Tom Shaw.

The dinner meeting, with more than 200 participating, was attended by many state and district notables and by many of the post's past commanders.

**BIRTHDAY FOR LAWTON-BYRUM POST** — Clarence Campbell, past commander and senior member of Lawton-Byrum Post 972, Veterans of Foreign Wars, aims knife at the birthday cake as the post observed its 50th birthday Friday night. Looking on are, from left, Terre Haute Mayor William Brighton; Felix Knauer, Department of Indiana Junior Vice Commander; John S. Etsinger, past Department of Indiana Junior Vice Commander and now National Voice of Democracy vice chairman and, at right, Winfred Todd, Post Commander. (Photo by Kadel)



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**FIREMEN, LAW OFFICERS HONORED**—Shown are some of the law officers and firemen, accompanied by wives, who were honored Friday night by Post 972 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Martin Photo.

## V.F.W. Post 972 Presents Awards

Ts MAR 25 1973

The presentation of several awards highlighted the 51st annual Past Commander's and Past President's Dinner, held by V. F. W. Post No. 972 Friday.

Mark Guthrie, junior at South High School, presented his winning Voice of Democracy speech to members of the post. Following the presentation he was awarded a V. F. W. plaque for placing first in the community along with a \$50 savings bond and a \$25 savings bond from the post and its auxiliary.

Joe Marcinko, South speech coach, was presented a V. F. W. key chain.

Other awards presented were: City firemen Paul Mayes, Jerry

King, Harry Burris, and Raymond Clark were presented citations for their prompt and courageous rescue of James and Elizabeth Davis following an automobile accident; Glen L. Bush, detective sergeant, and city detective Jerry Hawk were cited for their exemplary work for the city police department; Sheriff George Albright was cited for his work in the county.

Ivan Dwyer, post quartermaster, received a citation for being one of the most efficient quartermasters in the state.

Ralph Pigman, senior vice commander for the state, presented Post Commander Winfred Todd with a national aide-de-camp recruiting class cap on behalf of the national organization.

Albert Hastings, department inspector, also presented Todd with a life membership card in the V.F.W. for his work on behalf of the post.

Hastings also presented a life membership card to Carl D. Ellinger, senior vice commander of the post, for his leadership in support of the Military Order of the Cooties (MOC).

Alexander Heller, newly installed Seam Squirrel of the MOC, also was recognized.

Past commanders who attended the dinner and festivities were Carol Price, Herbert Dusenberry, Fred Meinschein, Frank Cardinal, Nathan McGrew, Clarence Campbell, Henry Garret, Tom Wilson, Charles

Neukom, John Blake, Tom Shaw, John Miller, Albert Hastings, Ivan Dwyer and Eli Malooley.

Past auxiliary presidents attending were: Mary Ruth Carrico, Martha Todd, Pauline Miller, Emma Dusenberry, Bess Daugherty, Mabel Cardinal, Deloris Dwyer, Katherine Crow, Jessie Cooper, Margarite Rockcliff, Ruth Newman, Norma Wilson, Virginia Boswell and Donnetta Hastings.

Other guests attending were: Mrs. Grace Pigman, Womens

Auxiliary, Department of Indiana; City Chief of Police and Mrs. James Swift; Fire Chief Leroy Shipley; Eddie Greer, fire instructor; Mrs. George Albright Jr.; Mrs. George Albright Sr.; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cardinal; Mrs. Albert Hastings; Mrs. Olivia McCool, chief of staff, Womens Auxiliary, Department of Indiana.

Caterers for the dinner were Eli and Rose Malooley. Co-chairmen for the meeting were John Miller and Mary Ruth Carrico.

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V.F.W. POST 972  
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FILE  
MARTIN PHOTO 4/6/73



Assoc. (Vigo Co.)  
VFW Honors

Officers at

APR 18 1973

Testimonial

Community Affairs File

Mary Ruth Carrico, president of the Sixth District Women's Auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Wars, will be honored at a testimonial dinner Friday at 7:30 p.m. at Louise's Restaurant, hosted by the Woman's Auxiliary of Post 972, VFW.

Also to be honored is Allen Yount, Sixth District Commander. Special guests include Department of Indiana Comman-

der and Mrs. Raymond Whitecki; Department President and Past Department Commander, William Warren, and Mr. and Mrs. Kehrt Cockran.

Mrs. Carrico has been a member of Post 972 Auxiliary for the past six years, holding almost all of the local post offices, as well as many in the District organization. She was elected District President in 1972 and will conclude her year's term on June 5, when new officers will be installed.

Lawson Oliphant, Sixth District Surgeon, will be the master of ceremonies at the dinner Friday. Reservations should be made with Mrs. Donnetta Hastings or Mrs. Martha Todd by Thursday.

Community Affairs File

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# Local VFW Officers Named To State Posts

ASSOC (Vigo Co)  
JUN 5 1974

High posts of the Grand of Indiana Military Order of the Cootie, went recently to Carl Ellinger, current commander of local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 972, and Alexander Heller, incoming commander.

Heller was appointed to the grand inspector post while Ellinger assumes duties as junior vice commander of the

Grand of Indiana during a meeting of the state group in Lafayette.

Both Ellinger and Heller are past seam squirrels of Tunisian Pup-Tent No. 11, the honor degree group of the local VFW post.

At the gathering of pup-tent groups from around the state, Heller also collected a Supreme Pup-Tent citation of merit for services in the hospital program of the Military Order of the Cootie.

Past department commander Clyde "Brick" Miller picked up a Grand Third Quarter Booster Award for his efforts in signing up the most new members for the local group.

Also, the VFW No. 972 honor association won from the Supreme Pup Tent several citations and awards, including the 1973 Membership Trophy, First place Booster Award, two citations of distinction, one for 100 per cent membership, and another for "outstanding contribution" to continuing service programs in hospital membership, scholarship and VFW booster programs.

The Grand Pup Tent honored the local branch with two citations of merit, one for membership and another for the group as "a loyal supporter of many humane programs."

Supreme Aide De Camp awards went to Miller, Ellinger, and Heller. Also Kenneth Wiles, past department commander; Albert W. Hastings, past department inspector; Eli Malooley, past department chairman and state convention chairman; Henry T. Wilson, sixth district commander; Paul Ingle, seam squirrel; William Daughtery, post quartermaster; Ivan Dwyer, past district commander; and Vaughn Jennings, Pup-Tent No. 11 historian.

Marcella Ellinger, president of Tunisian Pup-Tent auxiliary, received the Past Grand Presidents Award and several citations from the Supreme and Grand Pup-Tents.

Community Affairs File

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VFW

T AUG 6 1974

Community Affairs File

# Carl Ellinger Receives High VFW Honor

Commander Carl D. Ellinger of VFW Post 972 has been named an All-American Commander for his leadership of Post 972. Commander-in-Chief Ray R. Soden, Bensenville, Ill., announced.

Ellinger won the highest honor for a commander on any level of the VFW for promoting the VFW's programs and in increasing membership.

Soden commented, "The V.F.W. has maintained a continuous growth for 21 years because of men of the caliber of Commander Ellinger. It is because of this growth that we are able to go to Washington and promote legislation necessary to increase veterans benefits and to provide services to communities throughout the United States.

"I am pleased with his efforts during the 75th Anniversary year of the V.F.W. and proud to have him as an honored guest of the National organization at the annual National Convention in Chicago, Aug. 16-23."

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# VFW Post 972 Receives

## Honors At State Meet

Assoc (Vig Co)

8 JUN 26 1975

Lawton-Byrum Post 972, Veterans of Foreign Wars, received several honors and its members were recognized for service to the Post, the state organization and the community at the annual convention of the organization in Indianapolis recently.

Alexander Heller, commander of the Post for 1974-75, was named to the All-State Team of Commanders, and received a pin. Ivan Dwyer, post quartermaster, was named to the All-State Team of Quartermasters, and also was awarded a pin.

Paul Ingle, community service activities chairman, received a National Community Service Award Citation. The Post was awarded the Harold Bean Lan Trophy Award for 1974-75, and a first award plaque from the Department of Indiana for the 100 Percent Division & State Award. The Post also received second honors for Community Services Citation, and a National Distinguished Service Citation.

+ + +

Both the Post and the Ladies' Auxiliary were presented a National Community Service Award and a National Safety Award.

Members of Post 972 named to committees by the new state commander James Thiel of St. John, Ind., were Albert Hastings, V.O.D. Chairman; Carl D. Ellinger, community service chairman, Tom Wilson, State M.O.C. liaison chairman; and Eli Maloolley, department inspector.

Marcella Ellinger, president of the Post Auxiliary, 1974-75, won a first place trophy for letter for the State President's History Book. Mildred Daugherty, publicity chairman, won third place in the state and a personal citation; and the Auxiliary a third place trophy for publicity book and a citation for monthly reporting. Citations were presented the Auxiliary for over 100 Percent Cancer Aid and Research, and for Outstanding Youth Activities; and for Americanism Publicity.

Chairman of the Youth Activities committee is Delores Dwyer; and the Americanism publicity committee, Lola Fox. The Auxiliary also won second place trophy for community ac-

tivities, and Mary Jo Ingle, chairman, was presented a national citation.

+ + +

Mary R. Carrico was elected State Guard; and appointed as State V.O.D. chairman by State President Mary Etsinger of Lawrence, Ind. Marcella Ellinger was named State Americanism chairman also.

Members attending the convention were Mr. and Mrs. Max White, post commander, 1975-76; Mr. and Mrs. Winifred Todd, Mrs. Todd being Auxiliary president; Mr. and Mrs. Al Heller, Mr. and Mrs. Carl D. Ellinger; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fox.

Also Mr. and Mrs. Eli Maloolley, Mrs. Virginia Boswell, Mrs. Mary R. Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. Tony Perelle, Jack Stute, Mrs. Mary Carrico, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Daugherty, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bays, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hastings, Mr. and Mrs. John Miller, and Charles Biltmeier.

Community Affairs File

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T APR 20 1977

**VEW Elects**  
*Assoc (TH)*  
**Commander,  
Other Officers**

The new commander of the Veterans of Foreign War Post 972, located at 31 S. 13th St., is Charles E. Bays.

Other newly elected officers include: Fred Rogers, senior vice commander; Tim White, junior vice commander; Vaughn Jennings, chaplain; Ivan Dwyer, quartermaster; Hank Garrett, house committee No. 1; Tom Shaw, house committee No. 2, and Carroll Price, house committee No. 3.

Also, Hubert Phillips, Eli Malooley and Max White, trustees; Kenneth Glazner, surgeon; Frank Fox, judge advocate; Donald Gardner, adjutant, and John Miller, service office.

Mrs. Hazel Bays was elected president of the ladies auxiliary of the post. Other women elected to posts included: Bess Daugherty, senior vice president; Mary Jo Engle, junior vice president; Martha Todd, treasurer; Betty Featherson, chaplain; Zelma Miller, conductress; Mary Katherine Shannon, guard, and Donnetta Hastings, secretary. Others include: Marcella Ellinger, Carolyn Buntain and Virginia Boswell, trustees.

The new officers will be installed during a dinner meeting in May.

Community Affairs File

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POST 6574 ELECTS — Wesley Stafford has been installed as commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6574 in West Terre Haute.



PASSING THE GAVEL — Bill Howard, right, past commander of VFW Post 6574 in West Terre Haute, handed over the gavel to his successor Wesley Stafford.

*Assoc (Vigo)*

Ts NOV 5 1978



LEADERS — Wesley Stafford is serving as commander of VFW Post 6574 in West Terre Haute and Mary Alice Williams is the current president of the Ladies Auxiliary to Post 6574.

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Community Affairs File



*Associations (971) CAC*  
**VFW officers elected**

APR 16 1980

At a recent meeting of Lawton-Byrun Post 972, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Auxiliary 1980-81 officers were elected.

New post officers are Timothy A. White, commander; Hubert Phillips, senior vice commander; Mike Biguish, junior vice commander; Alex Heller, chaplain; Carroll Price, trustee 3; Max White, House committeeman 3; Joe Fredericks, judge-advocate.

Auxiliary officers include Mary Heller, president; Virginia Boswell, senior vice president; Betty Shaw, junior vice president; Norma Wilson, treasurer; Zelma Miller, chaplain; and Edith Perrelle, trustee.

Officers will be installed in May. Past State Commander Clyde "Brick" Miller will be the installing officer. Officers assume their duties following the VFW state convention in June.

Community Affairs File

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Community Affairs File

Assoc (Vigo) -  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
THE T

TS JUN 15 1980

## Mrs. Carrico heads state VFW Auxiliary

Mary Ruth Carrico, Route 32, will be installed today as state president of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Indiana, at the close of the convention at the Downtown Hilton Hotel, Indianapolis, according to a report this weekend.

There will be a reception in her honor from 4 to 8 p.m. at VFW Post 972, 31 S. 13th St., this evening. All members and friends of Mary Ruth are invited to attend, the report adds, noting that she is the first state president from Terre Haute

since 1949 when the late Rebecca Benning headed the organization.

Mary Ruth was graduated from Glenn High School in 1949 and was employed in the Terre Haute area until 1972. She and her husband, Melvin, live in Seelyville. They have two daughters, three grandsons and one granddaughter who also live in Seelyville.

Mrs. Carrico joined VFW Post 972 Ladies Auxiliary on the eligibility of her brother Raleigh Sowers in January, 1967. She has served as chaplain, conductress,

treasurer and was elected president for 1968-69 and 1969-70. She was selected President of the Year by the Department in 1968-69, served as Sixth District president 1972-73, has held several chairmanships and elected offices in the district as well as participation in numerous civic and other organizations.

She is also past auxiliary president of Tunisian No. 11, Military Order of Cootie, and past 4th District president. She is a life member of the local Amvets No. 2 Auxiliary and currently

serves as secretary-treasurer.

She is also secretary-treasurer of the Terre Haute Chapter of United Ostomy Association, is serving on the board of directors of the Greater Terre Haute Women's Bowling Association and was chosen as outstanding board member.

Mary Ruth is past president of the former Terre Haute Credit Women's Association and a member of American Legion Post 104 Ladies Auxiliary.

This year 165 auxiliaries and 11 districts will be under her



Mary Ruth Carrico

leadership with a membership of more than 27,500 in Indiana. The VFW Ladies Auxiliary

spends several thousand dollars each year promoting the National Auxiliary programs

Community Affairs File

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VFW

Vigo County Public Library

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Community Affairs File

Assoc (440) T s MAY 9 1985

## Shepherd installed leader of VFW post

Lawton-Byrum VFW Post 972 and Ladies Auxiliary 972 recently installed new officers for 1985-86 at the post home, 31 S. 13th St.

Sworn in were Howard "Mink" Shepherd, commander; Sam Cunningham, senior vice commander; William "Homer" Hogue, junior vice commander; Carl D. Ellinger, quartermaster; Joe Hahl, post advocate; Robert Nidey, chaplain; Gene Nidey, surgeon; John Miller,

three-year trustee; Ivan Wentz and Ray Gering, house committee, three years and two years, respectively.

Ladies elected were Geneva Miller, president; Betty Shepherd, senior vice president; Phyllis Wheeler, junior vice president; Martha Todd, treasurer; Doris Long, chaplain; Mary R. Carrico, conductress; Bettie Gorrell, guard;

Marcella Ellinger, three-year trustee; and Donetta Hastings, secretary.

All the local officers will assume their duties following the state VFW convention June 13-16 in Evansville.

Also, during the 6th District meeting in Attica on May 19, election of district officers will take place.



Assoc (Vigo Co)

Community Affairs File

# Local Viet Vets Organizing

S AUG 24 1982

By DAVID HUGHES  
Staff Writer

"An ear that will listen, a hand that will act and a voice that will speak in unison" is what the local Viet Vets organization offers to veterans of the Vietnam conflict, said Tim Dunigan.

Dunigan, chairman of Viet Vets, and other local veterans started the organization in March. Membership has increased from seven to about 45 persons now. Most are from the Wabash Valley.

Dunigan is pleased with the increase, but he always encourages more veterans to become members — "whether they be from Terre Haute or Wisconsin."

"I found a new member today (Monday) as a matter of fact," he beamed.

Aside from its motto, Viet Vets offers some practical assistance. One is better employment opportunities.

"We are able to send unemployed Vietnam veterans to a referral service at the Indiana State Employment Service," he said. "We put people to work."

"We also want to get Vietnam veterans a chance to seek help for any problems they might have developed — either through our membership meetings or through the Katherine Hamilton alcohol and drug center where some of our own people work," he added.

Dunigan said unemployment and alcohol and drug problems are not all that Vietnam veterans suffer. Alienation from the community, severe and mild states of depression, family-related problems and even suicide are common among Vietnam

veterans, he said.

Among activities planned for Viet Vets are a locally hosted statewide Vietnam veterans conference and a local fall festival with free music and a carry-in dinner later this year. Locations for these events have not been announced.

"Also, we would like to see a local Vietnam Veterans Week designated by the city administration," Dunigan said. "During this time, we would like to have displays and relics for the community to see."

If Dunigan wants a local week to honor Vietnam veterans, why did Viet Vets not sponsor any special event during the nationwide Missing In Action Day last month? Viet Vets also did nothing special to celebrate the statewide Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day in May.

One reason is that the organization was — and still is — in a growing process. Another, Dunigan said, is "we really should not have to blow our own horn to get people to recognize us."

Dunigan said he did try to locate some sort of locally sponsored celebration each time, but he could not find any.

Dunigan also has requested a booth for Viet Vets to be on display at Fairbanks Park in coordination with the local Labor Day celebration. No definite plans have been made.

Other officers of Viet Vets are Bob Crotty, vice chairman; Dick Snyder, secretary; and John Lasher, treasurer. Ian Johnston, Steve Sutherland and Harry Auterson are other members of the steering committee.

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Community Affairs File



# Grinch hits local scene as food, gifts for needy taken

T s DEC 17 1983

By Kathy Gurchiek  
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

The Grinch, or a reasonable facsimile thereof, stole Christmas here.

Collections of food and Christmas gifts for two needy families were taken Wednesday night from the First Unitarian-Universalist Society of Terre Haute, 416 S. Sixth St.

The loss of canned goods, clothes and some toys collected for a single unemployed man and a widow and her five children, ages 2 to 15, was described as a trying loss by Unitarian member Frank DeSanto.

Also reported stolen was a public-address system, microphone and a telephone-answering unit, DeSanto said.

DeSanto termed the theft deplorable. He said members again

will be asked to donate toward the Unitarian-Christmas project.

Problems continued to plague Viet Vets Inc. on Friday. The organization has been collecting monetary donations for food baskets to be given to needy families and elderly individuals.

The office telephone used for seeking donations malfunctioned Friday. A recorded message told callers the telephone line had been disconnected, and later the telephone constantly rang busy, said organization president William Bartlett. Office workers could call out, but no one could call in.

Bartlett said he was told the malfunction was the telephone company's fault.

The telephone problem followed on the heels of individuals last week posing as Viet Vets collecting money. Donation receipts had been

stolen from Viet Vets Inc. and a list of pledges apparently were copied, Bartlett said.

The number and monetary value of the receipts is unknown, since they had not yet been logged, Bartlett said. The loss means Viet Vets will go in the red about \$550.

But the 100 selected applicants will receive their food baskets.

"We still will meet that [distribution] deadline" of Wednesday, Bartlett said Friday. Beginning 10:30 a.m. Monday, 56 recipients will collect their baskets, which include all the trimmings for a traditional Christmas meal.

All of the baskets have been assembled, with perishable food items yet to be included, Bartlett said.

Persons may call Viet Vets Inc. at 238-9974, or its outreach office, 232-7160.

REFERENCE  
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# Winning design, inscription chosen for Viet Vets' memorial

T s APR 1 1 1984

~~Bury~~ Assoc (W.V)

Robert Crotty Jr., 73 S. 17th St., Tuesday won a \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bond for the design of a granite Vietnam Veterans' Memorial, and Marla J. Ferguson, 1411 S. 11th St., won a \$500 bond for the winning inscription.

Bill Bartlett, president of Viet Vets Inc., said prizes will be presented Memorial Day during a groundbreaking ceremony at the Vigo County Courthouse.

"I like to draw and it took me about three or four hours after I thought about it for a couple of days," Crotty, a Vietnam Vet and mechanic for H&D Aviation, said. "Winning surprised me — but, I'm very happy about it."

Ferguson, an employee at Terre Haute First National Bank's

Springhill branch, has resided in the community for 14 years following the retirement of her serviceman-father, Harold Perry. "It was two weeks before I was comfortable with what I wrote," she said. "Being an Army brat, I knew a lot about the service — it felt great to win."

Her inscription reads: "For the veterans of Vietnam, for the MIAs, for your fallen comrades, for those who came home: for your heroic efforts abroad, for your greater efforts at home, With belated acknowledgement of your duties performed, for God and country; We offer our heart-felt gratitude, in saying — at long last: Welcome home."

The memorial, to be erected on the southwest corner of the

courthouse lawn, will be 10 feet high and 16 feet long and comprised of 1-inch thick gray granite, Bartlett said. It will follow the contour of the circular walkway which will be encircled by flowers and shrubbery with a flag pole in the center. Granite benches will be spaced around the walkways.

Cost of the memorial is \$100,000, including a maintenance fund. Wearly Monuments, Haley Bros. Construction Corp. and Bunch Nurseries are coordinating the project. Completion is expected by Memorial Day 1985.

A fund drive is presently under way in the community, Bartlett said, including a country/western benefit show May 31 at the Zorah Shrine Temple.

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# Local Viet Vets upset with fund-raiser's act

T 5 JUL 20 1984

Assoc (W.V.)

Community Affairs File

A Memorial Day Weekend country-and-western music show raising funds for a memorial left a sour taste in the mouths of the Vietnam Veterans of Terre Haute Inc.

The local group is asking for more than \$29,000 in damages from a Kokomo entertainment promoter who allegedly kept proceeds of money solicited from local persons who thought their funds were going to the war memorial.

Charles McClory said CRM Promotions was hired in January to promote a country-and-western music show. Proceeds from the event and donations were collected for the war memorial to be built on the Vigo County Courthouse lawn.

Approximately 300 tickets were sold for the show, according to attorney James Bopp Jr., who filed the lawsuit in Vigo Superior Court. With tickets costing \$5, the show

brought in \$15,000, which was all used to pay expenses, Bopp said.

McClory was to be paid 50 percent of the gross ticket sales and 40 percent of the net profit from the show, according to his contract.

Besides selling tickets, the lawsuit claims that McClory kept nearly \$35,000 in personal solicitations from persons wanting to donate to the war memorial. Of that amount, the veterans' group received "\$3,000 and some change," Bopp said.

"The best we can reconstruct, he took \$29,000 that he was not entitled too. He should have gotten zero," the attorney charged Tuesday.

Bill Bartlett, president of the Vietnam Veterans of Terre Haute Inc., declined comment on the case.

McClory could not be reached for comment.

Vigo County Public Library

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Community Affairs File

# Letters

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter in hopes that you will print it in the Messenger. It is basically to inform the public about our veterans group in in Terre Haute.

We are known as Viet Nam Veterans Inc. of Terre Haute, Ind., Viet Vets Inc. for short. We operate a Veterans Outreach Center with our office at 417 So. 5th St., in the Post No. 40 of the American Legion building.

Our office is open Monday thru Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Our phone number is 232-7160, Ron Scott, office director.

Viet Vets Inc. is dedicated to help all Viet Nam Veterans, Viet Nam Era Veterans, and all veterans with any Educational, Medical, Employment, V.A., and G.I. Bill benefits or problems with their benefits that they may have.

Every Tuesday and Friday, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., the Veterans Representative from the Indiana State Employment, Mr. Wm. "Bill" Bartlett, will be in our Outreach Office, to assist veterans with employment services.

Viet Vets Inc. has meetings on the second and fourth Mondays of every month. Our meetings are open to all Viet Nam Veterans, Viet Nam Era Veterans, family, friends, and all interested individuals. Our meetings start at 6:30 p.m.

Other Outreach programs in the area consist of the following.

Brazil Viet Vets: V.F.W. Post 1127, 101 E. Jackson St.; phone 448-8554; meetings are 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 8 p.m.

Clinton Outreach Center: W. T. Palmer, Director; 737 Elm St., Clinton, Ind. 47842; phone 1-317-832-5129.

Illinois Representative: Virgil Batson Sr., RR 1, Box 275, Marshall, Illinois 62441, phone 1-217-826-9175.

There are approximately 6500 Viet Nam Veterans in Vigo County alone, 100 of which are members of our organization at this time. Anyone interested in our program is invited to give us a call or come in and find out what we're all about. We'll be glad to talk to you.

Robert J. Crotty Jr.  
President, Viet Vets Inc.

By the way, Vietnam Veterans announced a design contest for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. It's actually 2 contests to determine the design and the inscription. Prizes will be awarded. Call 232-7160 for the rules. Also, the group is starting a fund drive. You can deposit money directly in the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund at any Terre Haute 1st National Bank branch or to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, 417 S. 5th St., Terre Haute, Ind. 47807--Carl Roger Orth.

Vigo County Public Library

DO NOT

REFERENCE

Community Affairs File